



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
**Two Gateway Center**  
**Newark, NJ 07102**  
**[www.bpu.state.nj.us](http://www.bpu.state.nj.us)**

Customer Assistance

IN THE MATTER OF STUART AND )  
DONNA PLATT, PETITIONER v. SOUTH )  
JERSEY GAS COMPANY, RESPONDENT )

ORDER ADOPTING  
INITIAL DECISION

BPU Docket No. GC04030146U  
OAL Docket No. PUC 4005-04

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On March 3, 2004, Stuart and Donna Platt (Petitioners) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board) for a hearing in regard to a billing dispute with South Jersey Gas Company (Respondent). On April 1, 2004, Respondent filed an answer to the petition.

On April 29, 2004, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Richard F. Wells.


During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and executed a Stipulation of Settlement. The Settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On September 16, 2004, ALJ Wells filed his Initial Decision with the Board, recommending that the settlement be approved. The ALJ found the Settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ therefore concluded that the Settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

The Settlement provides that Respondent will credit Petitioner's account in the amount of \$255.59.

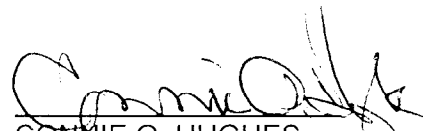
After review, the Board FINDS that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 10/22/04

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

  
JEANNE M. FOX  
PRESIDENT

  
FREDERICK F. BUTLER  
COMMISSIONER

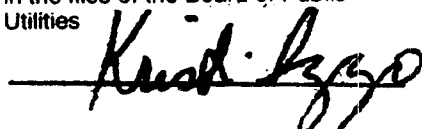
  
CONNIE O. HUGHES  
COMMISSIONER

  
JACK ALTER  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
KRISTI IZZO  
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within  
document is a true copy of the original  
in the files of the Board of Public  
Utilities



BPU Dkt. No. GC04030146U  
OAL Dkt. No. PUC 4005-04

Stuart and Donna Platt v. South Jersey Gas Company

BPU Dkt. No. GC04030146U

OAL Dkt. No. PUC 4005-04

SERVICE LIST

Stuart and Donna Platt  
8 Hazelhurst Drive  
Voorhees, NJ 08043

Richard H. Walker, Esq.  
Corporate Counsel  
South Jersey Gas Company  
1 South Jersey Plaza  
Folsom, NJ 08037

Kent Papsun, Director  
Division of Customer Assistance  
Board of Public Utilities  
Two Gateway Center  
Newark, NJ 07102

Jeff Slutzky, Esq.  
Division of Law  
124 Halsey St. - 5th Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102



State of New Jersey  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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NEWARK, NJ

CMS  
BESLOW  
RPA  
SLUTZKI (AG)  
HILARIO (LEGAL)  
CUST. RELATIONS  
FORD-WILLIAMS

INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 4005-04

AGENCY DKT. NO. GC04030146U

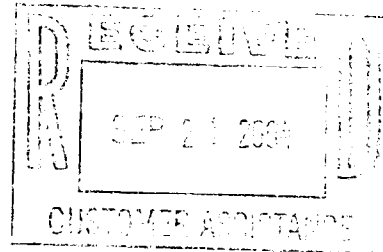
**STUART AND DONNA PLATT,**

Petitioners,

v.

**SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY,**

Respondent.



**Stuart Platt**, petitioner, *pro se*

**Richard H. Walker, Esq.**, for respondent

Record Closed: September 10, 2004

Decided: September 13, 2004

BEFORE **RICHARD F. WELLS, ALJ:**

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on May 18, 2004, for determination as contested cases, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to -15* and *N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 to -13*.

The parties have agreed to a settlement and have prepared a stipulation indicating the terms thereof, which is attached and fully incorporated herein.

I have reviewed the record and the terms thereof and I **FIND**:

1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures or their representatives' signatures.
2. The settlement fully disposes of all issues in controversy and is consistent with the law.

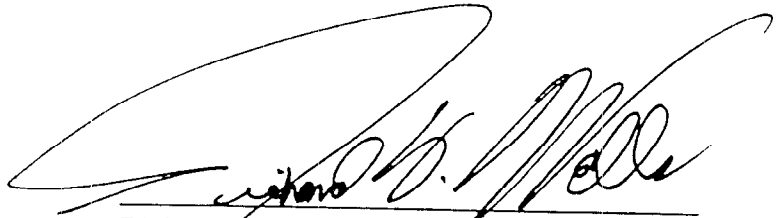
I **CONCLUDE** that this settlement agreement meets the requirements of *N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1* and that the settlement should be approved. I approve the settlement and therefore **ORDER** that the parties comply with the settlement terms and that these proceedings be concluded.

I hereby **FILE** my initial decision with the **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** for consideration.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**, which by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Board of Public Utilities does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five (45) days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10*.

9-13-04

DATE



RICHARD F. WELLS, ALJ

Receipt Acknowledged:

9/16/2004

DATE



BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Mailed to Parties:

DATE

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

jh



**South Jersey Gas**

*Where we put all of our energy®*

September 7, 2004

The Honorable Judge Wells  
State of New Jersey  
Office of Administrative Law

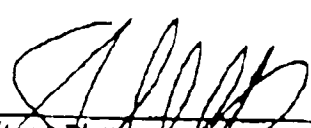
Re: Stuart and Donna Platt vs. South Jersey Gas Company  
Billing Dispute  
OAL Docket No. PUCCC 04005-20045


Dear Judge Wells:

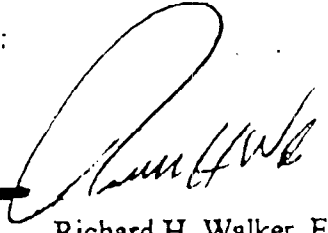
This letter is pursuant to our telephone conference in which a settlement was agreed upon regarding the above mentioned matter.

It was agreed that Mr. Stuart Platt would withdraw his petition in response to a credit of \$255.59 being applied to his South Jersey Gas account.

The signatures below indicate this settlement is satisfactory to both parties:

  
Stuart Platt  
8 Hamelhurst Drive  
Voorhees, NJ 08043

  
Anne Seguin  
Customer Relations Specialist  
South Jersey Gas Company  
(609) 561-9000 x4167

  
Richard H. Walker, Esq.  
Corporate Counsel  
South Jersey Gas Company

We thank you for your assistance in the resolution of this matter.

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1 South Jersey Plaza, Folsom, New Jersey 08037 • [www.sjindustries.com](http://www.sjindustries.com)  
Tel. 1-888-766-9900 • Fax 609-567-2684 • TDD Only 1-800-547-9085



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Quakerbridge Plaza, Building #9  
Quakerbridge Road, PO Box 049  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0049  
(609) 588-6584

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**SOUTH**

Date: 9/15/2004

Re: Initial Decisions for Receipt

Receipt of the following decisions from the Office of Administrative Law (as well as a copy of this form) is acknowledged as of the date indicated below:

OAL Docket No. PUC

4025-04

Case Name

Stygar & Donnell P/AH

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Date: 9/16/04

Board of Public Utilities  
2 Gateway Center  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

  
Board of Public Utilities